

# BROKEN HILLS MINE A WONDER

## Ore Shoot is of Immense Size and Its Rich Values in Gold Denote Another Mohawk

### Over Eighty Houses in the New Town of Helena, and New Ones Going up—Eleven Leasers are Sinking Shafts in the District and Others will soon Commence Work --Wonderful Showing of Main Property

(By H. E. Davis.)

The Clifford district looks all to the good. The writer visited this new-old district, which has created so much interest in southern Nevada since it passed into the hands of J. C. McCormack on the twenty-third of September, and knowing that but a short month ago there was but the development work and a short shaft put down by the Cliffords, and a small shack or two, in the central part of the district, and merely a few prospect holes in other parts, he was agreeably surprised to find a town of some eighty-five structures, some of them tents, some tent houses, and others large—considering the age of the district—structures of substantial frame construction—not only substantial but warm; a big gasoline hoist puffing away on one of the leases, and some fourteen shafts being put down with all possible speed by leasers, exclusive of the shaft on the central, or Broken Hills mine, which is the property of Mr. McCormack and a few associates. Two large frame buildings are in progress of construction for mercantile firms, and on the way into Clifford our party passed seven big loads of lumber, tenting and other supplies which presage the beginning of new homes and business houses and the opening of other leases before the end of another week. And the big Pope car of Mr. McCormack went by way of Salsberry Wash, and not by the McKinney station road, and on which, we learned, were even more teams than on the road we traveled. The ore teams go by way of McKinney's, on account of its watering accommodations. They all go back loaded with supplies, and the larger part of the people who are going to Clifford to try to wrest from

the desert some of its carefully hidden riches go by the same route.

Imagine, if you will, a long, wide valley, seemingly level as a floor, with the rugged Kawich range to the east, and a smaller tributary range, rough and jagged, forming its northern boundary. Just a little to the north and east of the center of this valley is a small eminence, and to the west of this the new town of Helena. Back to the south is a long stretch of rolling country, part of the floor of the Ralston desert, and which for miles bears a luxuriant growth of bunch grass which affords feed for droves of cattle which are herded along the Stone Cabin creek, a pretty little stream even now, when its fringing willows are bare and sere and the stream itself locked in the icy embrace of near-winter. Such is the location of Helena.

The Broken Hills Mining company's property, upon which the Cliffords made the original find of the district, is the property which has given the district and town its phenomenal growth. In the crown of the hill the Cliffords first prospected, and then sunk a couple of shafts, one on an incline for some seventy-five feet, the other to the east and vertical for about fifty feet in depth. They found rich milling ore, and threw most of it on the dumps, not being able to ship the same and develop the property. It has long been known that they had a rich milling proposition there, and when the news was flashed over the country that J. C. McCormack of Goldfield had purchased the mine for \$350,000, a sensation was caused for two reasons. First, it was regarded as a harbinger of good times, after the recent depression, and that it meant the de-

velopment of the Clifford district and the subsequent development of Bellehelen, the Silver Bow, Golden Arrow and other contiguous districts. Second, because of the daring of the purchaser in purchasing what was believed to be a strictly low grade proposition at such a distance from railroads or milling facilities.

That sensation has continued to grow. About the fifteenth of October McCormack's men actually began work on the old incline shaft which had been started by the Cliffords. This was run some further, and at the same time, after careful examinations had been made, McCormack's men began sacking and shipping much of the ore that had been thrown on the dumps. Ore teams kept increasing until there was finally a total of sixty teams continually on the road between Helena and Tonopah. Returns from the plant at Millers afforded another sensation, for the report that that rock was giving milling values of over \$200 per ton, nearly all in gold, seemed incredulous. Then came wild reports that it was running over \$1000 per ton. This report was promptly denied by the mine people, and it now divulges that the actual, average milling value of the rock from the Broken Hills mine is something over \$250 per ton. Some of it goes over \$300, but we prefer to give the low average. Since the ore teams started hauling, 5000 sacks of ore, averaging 125 pounds each, or a total of 312 tons, has been shipped to the mill, and forty tons are now sacked and waiting to be hauled to the railroad. At an average value of \$250 per ton, ore to the value of \$87,000 has already been milled, while ore worth \$10,000 is sacked and waiting to be shipped. How is that in a little over a month's work?

We carefully examined some of the first rock which was shipped, some which is being shipped at present; the rock on the sides of the shaft, and the rock which is being taken from the bottom of the shaft at present. It is an identical. It is a porphyritic quartz, and the gold is in the form of chloride of gold, the rock shot here and there with silver sulphides or carbonates in small, black patches.

The sides, top and bottom of the incline shaft, all the way to the vertical, are formed of this same rock. No walls are visible. Where the incline is tapped by the vertical shaft quite a cavity has been opened up, its roof some eight feet above the general slope of the roof of the incline proper. Here a small bit of the hanging wall is exposed. The vertical section of the shaft is now down forty-five feet, and the sides and bottom are in the chloride rock, no walls yet found. The shaft will be continued straight down, and when the footwall of the ledge is reached, crosscutting will be started and continued to the westerly edge of the company property, to determine the extent of the ledge and to ascertain its true and general incline. If the ledge continues its surface slope, and allowing for cutting through it at an angle on the vertical shaft, the ore body now being worked is some thirty feet in thickness—and the foot wall not in sight.

The shaft begins near the top of, and on the westerly slope, of the hill above mentioned—which is but a mound, practically. The slope of the shaft is to the west, direct, and is at about a 50 degree angle. It is to the west of the Broken Hills mine, or in the direction toward which the big ledge is inclining, that the most of the leasers are working, although there are two or three working on what is now called the back side, or east side of the little hill. Further over to the northwest several prospectors are working, for clear across the district, from its northwest to its southeast corner, is a line of small hills much similar to the one

around which the town of Helena centers, and to the novice giving the impression of a big ledge which extends clear across the district. All the workings, with the exception of one or two above mentioned, are to the west of a line drawn along the crest of this seeming line of hills, or along the seeming ledge. Minor seams which have been uncovered in other parts of the district all have the general trend to the west.

#### MANY LEASERS AT WORK.

Some seventeen leases have been let on the holdings of the Broken Hills Mining company, and of these eleven are actually working—sinking shafts. The Florence Consolidated of Goldfield, whose work is being managed by G. S. Johnson, has a lease on block 1 and part of block 2 of the district, this property being the first to the west of the three blocks which are held by the Broken Hills company. This company is putting down three shafts. On one of them it has installed a big gasoline hoist, and the shaft is going down steadily, it being down fifty feet at this time. This shaft is due west of the shaft of the Broken Hills concern, in direct line with the slope of the ore body so far as has been ascertained, and if the same slope continues the shaft is bound to cut the ore shoot in the near future. Their second shaft, from which they are taking the rock with a windlass, is due south of this one, and is down some thirty feet, while a third shaft which they are sinking is southeast of this latter shaft. Putman and Shea, on block 11, are sinking a shaft, and at a depth of some thirty feet have encountered stringers of ore. Thomas G. Murphy, of Goldfield, has leases on blocks 26 and 27, and is sinking on his holdings.

Gould and Meyers are just starting work on their lease on block 25, and will go right down with their shaft. Mining Engineer Lucey has a lease on block 18, and has a force of men sinking a shaft. As yet they are using a hand windlass.

Smith Brothers, on block 17, in line with the latter holding, are down fifty feet and still sinking. They have already struck ore, but believe it is a new ledge, as they do not consider that they have attained sufficient depth to cut the ledge which crops to the surface at the workings of the Broken Hills company.

Belmont and Dean, of Manhattan, have a lease on block 10, and have their shaft down sixty feet, and are putting it deeper every day. They have carefully prospected their ground, and gone over the district carefully, and have every belief that many of the leasers working to the west, in particular, of the big strike are going to get mines which will prove bonanzas.

Dave Helms is sinking on block 14, but he could not be seen and it was not ascertained how far down he has gone.

The Prosky lease on block 9 and 24 is not being worked as yet, but we are informed that supplies and men will probably be sent out this week to commence operations on this property.

Joe Brecca has a shaft down fifty-five feet in block 16, on which he holds a lease.

The Florence Consolidated is employing the largest force of any of the leasers, and with its power hoist will do rapid work on shaft No. 1. The Broken Hills company is as yet using a whim on one shaft, and a windlass on another. This seeming slowness in getting in a power plant is due, however, to the fact that Mr. McCormack is to at once build a fifty-ton mill on the property, and the power plant and milling and hoisting plant will all be installed at the same time. As heretofore stated in these columns, exhaustive tests are being made of the Clifford district ores, so that the mill will be able to handle them at the best advantage. Water is but a comparatively short distance away, and within a month pipes will probably be laid to the town, and there will be plenty for all uses, milling included. In fact, but a short distance to the southeast, water can be reached by sinking a well but a short distance. There is also an abundance of timber within six miles of the new town.

Among the business houses at the town of Helena we noticed one restaurant, with another to be opened within a few days; two grocery and general stores, with the Southern Nevada Mercantile company of this city erecting a large frame structure in which they will start a store as soon as completed; a bakery, which was opened up Monday; a butcher shop, where all kinds of fresh meat are handled, five saloons—which is a small number for a new mining camp of such size and promise; a dance hall, and rumors of several more business houses which will soon be opened. Harry Roche of this city, we learned at Clifford, already has a feed yard there, and will soon open a dry goods store.

All but one or two of the lots in the original townsite have been sold, this necessitating the opening of an addition, as has already been men-

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tioned in the Bonanza.

With all the leases doing steady work, and the activity which the erection of mill and the construction of a water pipe line will soon cause, Helena will be a humming little mining town. On Sunday the sound of the carpenter's hammers echoed from a dozen different points, and teams were at work scraping off the streets in the townsite, the streets straight and wide, by the way.

The camp looks good, and the work which is being done there show all the evidence of good faith and actual mining development which the mining investor could ask for. However, the investor is not being asked for much in the Clifford district, as the work, in the main, is being done by the men on the ground and with their own money and labor.

#### PERSONAL MENTION

J. P. Hennessey went to Goldfield Sunday.

R. S. Thompson went to Goldfield Sunday.

Ed Dale went to Millers Sunday on business.

Bert Clarke returned yesterday from Blair.

Uri B. Curtis was a Goldfield visitor yesterday.

A. J. Longstreet is in from his ranch near Clifford.

J. W. Stewart went to Goldfield yesterday on business.

Charles Slavin of Goldfield is spending several days in Tonopah.

H. McNamara was a Goldfield passenger on the noon train yesterday.

Clayton Siefert returned yesterday after spending several weeks on the coast.

Lewis A. Parkhurst went to Goldfield yesterday morning and returned last evening.

District Attorney P. A. McCarran returned yesterday from a business trip to Carson.

Dr. E. K. Smith came in from Round Mountain yesterday. He will return this morning.

Sheriff J. J. Owens returned yesterday from an official business trip to Carson and Reno.

Bryce Turner, former superintendent of the Montgomery Shoshone, was in Tonopah Sunday.

Arthur Perry, of the Kenneth Donnellan Brokerage company, was a Goldfield visitor Sunday.

Letson Ballet returned yesterday from a trip to Manhattan and the northern end of the county.

Dave Holland returned Sunday from a visit to Inyo county, California, where he spent several weeks.

T. L. Oddie was a Goldfield passenger yesterday, where he will remain several days transacting important business.

Mrs. Key Pittman was a passenger on Sunday morning's train for San Francisco, where she will make a brief visit.

Donald B. Gillies, president of the Montgomery Shoshone and Tonopah Extension, returned Sunday from a trip to New York. Mr. Gillies reports the stock market of the east as looking excellent and says the wave of prosperity has already started from the east. He will leave in a few days for Rhyolite to examine the Shoshone property there.

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EFFECTIVE, JULY 19, 1908.

**Local (or Pacific) Time.**

7:45 a.m. Lv. Goldfield	Ar. 12:25 p.m.
9:05 a.m. Ar. Tonopah	Lv. 11:15 a.m.
9:20 a.m. Lv. Tonopah	Ar. 11:00 a.m.
9:52 a.m. Lv. Millers	Ar. 9:52 a.m.
10:29 a.m. Lv. Blair	Junct. Ar. 9:17 a.m.
1:12 p.m. Lv. Mina	Ar. 8:25 a.m.
6:55 p.m. Lv. Hasen	Ar. 2:50 a.m.
7:45 p.m. Lv. Reno	Ar. 12:15 a.m.
7:05 a.m. Ar. San Fran.	Lv. 10:40 a.m.
1:30 p.m. Ar. Ogden	Lv. 5:10 p.m.
3:05 p.m. Ar. Salt Lake	Lv. 4:00 p.m.

**SIX TRAINS DAILY BETWEEN GOLDFIELD AND TONOPAH.**

Leave Tonopah	Arrive Goldfield
8:10 a.m.	9:15 a.m.
11:15 a.m.	12:25 p.m.
3:40 p.m.	4:45 p.m.
Leave Goldfield	Arrive Tonopah
7:45 a.m.	9:05 a.m.
2:10 p.m.	3:15 p.m.
6:00 p.m.	7:05 p.m.

H. R. HANLIN, Gen'l Supt. W. D. FORSTER, Gen'l Pass. Agt.

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